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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Scott, M. et al.

Serial No: 08/916,140

Filing Date: 21 August 1997



Atty. Docket No. SUV-003.04

Examiner: Richard Schnizer
Art Unit: 1632

For: *Patched Genes and Uses Related Thereto*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate of First Class Mailing

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March 8, 2000

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

By:

Matthew P. Vincent

Amendment and Response

Dear Madam/Sir

In response to the Office Action dated 8 September 1999, please enter the following amendment and remarks.

In the Claims:

⊕ Please cancel claims 1-48 without prejudice

- a!
49. (amended) A method for identifying an agent for treating an animal having a disorder characterized by loss-of-function of a *patched* gene, comprising [administering to the animal an agent which inhibits derepression of one or more *patched*-dependent genes]
- a. contacting one or more test agents with a cell that expresses a wild-type *patched* protein and identifying test agents that change the level of *patched*-dependent intracellular signal transduction relative to the absence of test agent;